Serial No. 09/677,134 Filed: September 29, 2000

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending in the present application. At the present time, claims 1-41 stand rejected based on the prior art of record as detailed in a Final Office Action mailed on September 16, 2003. In particular, claims 1-2, 10, 14-15, 18 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Underwood (U.S. Patent No. 6,523,027). Claims 28-41 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bowman Amuah (U.S. Patent No. 6,529,948). Claims 3-9, 11-13, 16-17, 19-22 and 24-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Underwood in view of Bowman Amuah.

The Examiner has cited 37 CFR 1.131(b) and requested the Applicants to specifically point out portions of the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" that are applicable to the invention (the book was submitted as part of an After Final Office Response mailed on November 17, 2003). The claims of Applicants' patent application are supported by Applicants' Specification. In addition, the concepts, ideas, etc. included in Applicants' Specification are embodied in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing." Accordingly, in response to the Examiner's request, Applicants' provide the following correlation between portions of the book entitled Netcentric and Client/Server Computing and portions of Applicants' Specification:

- Figure 1 and discussion related to Figure 1 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapters 1-3 and 15-18 and also by Exhibit 8 on page 3-18 and discussion related to Exhibit 8.

- Figure 2 and discussion related to Figure 2 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 17 and also by Exhibit 15 on page 17-33 and discussion related to Exhibit 15.

- Figure 3 and discussion related to Figure 3 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 17 and also by Exhibit 16 on page 17-35 and discussion related to Exhibit 16.

- Figure 4 and discussion related to Figure 4 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 17 and also by Exhibit 18 on page 17-37 and discussion related to Exhibit 18.

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- Figure 5 and discussion related to Figure 5 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 3 on page 18-5 and the discussion related to Exhibit 3.
- Figure 6 and discussion related to Figure 6 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by pages 18-9 through 18-14.
- Figure 7 and discussion related to Figure 7 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 4 on page 18-14 and discussion related to Exhibit 4.
- Figure 8 and discussion related to Figure 8 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 5 on page 18-15 and discussion related to Exhibit 5.
- Figure 9 and discussion related to Figure 9 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 6 on page 18-16 and discussion related to Exhibit 6.
- Figure 10 and discussion related to Figure 10 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 7 on page 18-17 and discussion related to Exhibit 7.
- Figure 11 and discussion related to Figure 11 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 8 on page 18-18 and discussion related to Exhibit 8.
- Figure 12 and discussion related to Figure 12 in the Specification is principally described in the book entitled "Netcentric and Client/Server Computing" by Chapter 18 and also by Exhibit 9 on page 18-18 and discussion related to Exhibit 9.

As set forth above, claims 1-41 of the present application have been rejected by the Examiner based on U.S. Patent No. 6,523,027 (issued to "Underwood") and U.S. Patent No. 6,529,948 (issued to "Amuah"). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R.§1.131, Applicants have now established a date of conception of the present invention at least as early as December 18, 1998, which is earlier than the effective date of either of the prior art references relied on by the Examiner. To that end, the prior art references cited in support of the rejections should be

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removed from consideration, as they are no longer valid prior art references for this application.

Applicants believe that all of the present pending claims of this application are allowable and respectfully request the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application indicating the same. In the event a telephone conversation would help expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (317) 636-0886.

Respectfully submitted,

Sanders N. Hillis
Attorney Reg. No. 45,712

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: 317-636-0886
Facsimile: 317-634-6701

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